

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A solid pigment preparation comprising:

(A) ~~50 to 85% by weight of~~ at least one pigment, ~~based on the total weight of the solid pigment preparation; and~~ ~~in a higher concentration than that which corresponds to a subsequent application and~~

(B) at least one carrier material selected from the group consisting of oligomers and polymers which have a glass transition temperature > 30°C and a melting point or melting range below their decomposition temperature,

wherein the solid pigment preparation is prepared by dispersing the at least one pigment or pigments (A) or the pigment or pigments (A) and at least one constituent (D) in the melt of the at least one carrier material or carrier materials (B) or in the melt of the carrier material or carrier materials (B) and at least one constituent (D) for from 0.5 to 5 hours in a discontinuously operating dispersing apparatus with a power input of from 0.1 to 1.0 kW/kg to form a mixture (A/B), and then discharging the mixture (A/B) or (A/B/D) from the dispersing apparatus and allowing it to cool and solidify.

2. (Original) The pigment preparation as claimed in claim 1, which is in powder form.

3. (Original) The pigment preparation as claimed in claim 1, which is in the form of a dispersion in at least one organic solvent (C).

4. (Previously Presented) The pigment preparation of claim 1, wherein the pigments (A) are selected from the group consisting of organic, inorganic, transparent, opaque, color, effect, fluorescent, phosphorescent, electrically conductive, and magnetically shielding pigments, transparent metal powders, opaque metal powders, organic fillers and nanoparticles, inorganic fillers and nanoparticles, transparent and opaque fillers and nanoparticles.

5. (Previously Presented) The pigment preparation of claim 1, wherein the oligomers and polymers (B) have a glass transition temperature of between 30 and 200°C.

6. (Previously Presented) The pigment preparation of claim 1, wherein the oligomers and polymers (B) do not decompose within a temperature range of at least 100°C above their glass transition temperature.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The pigment preparation of claim 3, having a solids content of from 20 to 80% by weight.

10. (Currently Amended) The pigment preparation of claim 1, further comprising constituent (D) selected from the group consisting of additives and dyes.

11. (Previously Presented) The pigment preparation of claim 10, wherein the additives are selected from the group consisting of crosslinking agents, UV absorbers, light stabilizers, free-radical scavengers, devolatilizers, slip additives, polymerization inhibitors, crosslinking catalysts, thermolabile free-radical initiators, photoinitiators, thermally curable reactive diluents, reactive diluents curable with actinic radiation, adhesion promoters, leveling agents, film-forming auxiliaries, flame retardants, corrosion inhibitors, free-flow aids, waxes, and flattening agents and mixtures thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) The pigment preparation of claim 1, wherein the dispersing apparatus is a kneading apparatus.

13. (Withdrawn) A process for producing a pigment preparation of claim 1 by mixing together constituents (A) and (B) and optionally (D), comprising

(1) in a first step in dispersing apparatus

- dispersing the pigment or pigments (A) or

- the pigment or pigments (A) and at least one constituent (D)
 - in the melt
 - of the carrier material or carrier materials (B) or
 - of the carrier material or carrier materials (B) and at least one constituent (D)

with a power input of from 0.1 to 1 kW/kg for from 0.5 to 5 hours, and then

(2) in a second step discharging the resulting mixture (A/B) or (A/B/D) from the dispersing apparatus and allowing it to cool and solidify.

- 14. (Withdrawn) The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein
 - (3) the solidified mixture (A/B) or (A/B/D) is pulverized.
- 15. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 13, wherein
 - (4) the solidified mixture (A/B) or (A/B/D) is dispersed in at least one organic solvent (C).

16-22. (Canceled)

23. (Withdrawn) A coating comprising at least one of a pigmented powder coating or liquid coating material based on organic solvents comprising the pigment preparation of claim 1.

24. (Withdrawn) A mixer system comprising the pigment preparation of claim 1, for producing or tinting at least one of powder coating material or solvent based coating materials.

25. (Withdrawn) A mixer system according to claim 24 comprising

- (I) at least two adjustment modules each comprising a dispersion as set forth in claim 1 and

(II) at least one solids module comprising pigmented or unpigmented, dimensionally stable powders.

26. (Withdrawn) A powder coating composition according to claim 23 wherein the oligomers and polymers (B) of the pigment preparation, are identical with the binders present in the powder coating.

27. (Withdrawn) A powder coating composition according to claim 23, wherein the powders are polymer pellets or powder coating materials.

28. (Withdrawn) A substrate coated with a powder coating according to claim 23, where said substrate is selected from the group consisting of interior and exteriors of transport including at least one of aircraft, rail vehicles, watercraft, and automobiles, components of transportation vehicles, building interiors and exteriors, doors, windows, furniture, hollow glassware, pipelines, coils, containers, mechanical, optical, and electrical components; household appliances, boilers, radiators; flanges, valves, wall-fitted wardrobes, bed frames, insulation boxes, fence posts, garden furniture, traffic barriers, road signs, shopping baskets, inserts for dishwashers, brake cylinders, laboratory equipment, and chemical plants.